

Remarks

The Examiner's reconsideration of the application is urged in view of the further amendment of the single independent claim, claim 1, and comments which follow.

The interview granted by Examiner Dastouri to the undersigned and David Roberts on March 22, 2005 is gratefully acknowledged. As explained to the Examiner, David Roberts is with Keith W. Nash & Co. of Cambridge, England, and is the primary agent of the Assignee, Oxoid Limited, in handling of this application. As explained to Examiner Dastouri, Mr. Roberts is far more familiar with the substance of the application than the undersigned, and was better able to respond to specific technical issues concerning the application.

During the interview, it was explained to Examiner Dastouri that in the opinion of Mr. Roberts and the undersigned, the language of claim 1 is quite clear. The code of the invention, as claimed, comprises one or more letters and one or more numerals. It is not a code that can be interpreted to then be letters or numerals, such as a bar code which can have some underlying interpretation, but specifically a code of letters and numerals. That is in compliance with the understanding of the word "code", and to that end, attached is a copy of the relevant page of Chambers English Dictionary, which fully supports that understanding.

The Examiner, during the interview, explained that he is required to give the terms of the claims the broadest reasonable interpretation, and his interpretation of "code" means that it could be various items, not simply letters and numerals. The undersigned and Mr. Roberts disagreed, pointing out that the claim language is quite clear that the code is specifically composed of letters and numerals, as claimed in claim 1, but Examiner Dastouri disagreed. When the issue of then amending claim 1 to make it abundantly clear that the code can only be letters and numerals, Examiner Dastouri indicated that such an amendment would lead to a further search, and thus such an amendment would be refused entry in the application. To avoid the extra step of an Advisory Action and then filing of a Request for Continued

Examination, this Request for Continued Examination is therefore being directly filed, with the claim amendment discussed with Examiner Dastouri during the interview.

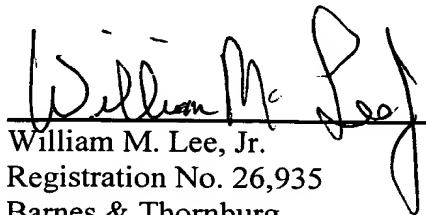
Claim 1 now makes it clear that the code comprises one or more letters and one or more numerals. Thus, a bar code is specifically excluded, since a bar code does not consist of one or more letters and one or more numerals. While it is submitted that claim 1 clearly meant exactly that previously, with the amendment above, there should be no issue whatsoever.

The prior arguments concerning the Domanik reference are equally applicable here. Domanik specifically requires a bar code. The present invention is directed to a code which is composed of one or more letters and one or more numerals. Domanik is thus clearly distinguished by the present invention.

Claim 1 is the only independent claim in the present application, and it is submitted that claim 1 clearly distinguishes over Domanik, as explained above and in the prior response. No other prior art is believed to be applicable or nearly as pertinent as Domanik, and it is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner's further and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore urged.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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cocker

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codification

codilla

cocker¹, cockerel. See cock¹.
 Cocker *kok'ər*, n. a standard of accuracy and orthodoxy. [From Edward Cocker (1631-75), author of a popular arithmetic book.]
 cockernony *kok-ər-nən'i*, (obs. Scot.) n. the gathering of hair in a fillet: a coiffure: a pad of false hair: a starched cap. [Origin obscure.]
 cocket *kok'it*, n. the custom-house seal (hist.): a custom-house certificate. [Origin doubtful.]
 cock-eye(d), cockhorse. See cock¹.
 cockle¹ *kok'l*, n. a cornfield weed, esp. now the corn-cockle. — cock'le-bur clover (Xanthium). [O.E. *coccel*.]
 cockle² *kok'l*, n. a large bivalve mollusc (*Cardium edule* or other species) with thick, ribbed, heart-shaped, equal-valved shell: its shell: a bivalve shell generally. — *adj.* cock'led shelled like a cockle. — cock'le-hat a hat bearing a scallop-shell, the badge of a pilgrim; cock'leshell the shell of a cockle: a frail boat. — cockles of the heart the heart itself. [Fr. *coquille* — Gr. *konychion* — *kanchē*, a cockle.]
 cockle³ *kok'l*, n. a pucker. — *v.i.* to pucker. — *v.t.* to cause to pucker. [Perh. Fr. *coquiller*, to blister — *coquille*; see cockle².]
 cockle⁴ *kok'l*, n. a furnace or stove. [Perh. Du. *kachel*.]
 cockle-trained. See cock¹.
 cockney *kok'ni*, n. an egg, esp. a small misshapen egg (obs. or dial.): a coddled child (obs.): a milksop (*Shak.*): one whose experience and knowledge are exclusively townish: (still in U.S., usu. disparaging) a townsman: (often with *cap.*) one born in London, strictly, within hearing of Bow Bells: London dialect. — *adj.* (often with *cap.*) characteristic of a Cockney. — *ns.* cock'neydom the domain of Cockneys; cockneyfication. — *v.i.* cock'neyfy to make Cockney. — *adj.* cock'neyish. — *n.* cock'neyism a Cockney idiom or characteristic. — the Cockney School an old nickname for a supposed school of writers belonging to London — Leigh Hunt, Keats and others. [M.E. *coke-ney*, cock's egg; others would connect with Fr. *coquin*, a rogue — L. *coquus*, a cook.]
 cockroach *kok'rōch*, n. an orthopterous insect, the so-called black beetle. [Sp. *cucaracha*, woodlouse, cockroach.]
 cocksoom, cocksfoot, cockshoot, cockshy, cocktail, etc. See cock¹.
 cocky. See cock¹, cockatoo.
 cockylecky. See cockle¹ under cock¹.
 coco¹ *kō'kō*, n. a tropical seaside palm-tree (*Cocos nucifera*) with curving stem (also co'co-palm, co'conut palm, co'co-trec), producing the coco-nut. — *pl.* co'cons. — co'co-de-mer (-dē-mēr'; Fr.) the double coconut (see below); co'conut, (less correctly) co'conut or co'kernut, a large edible nut, yielding co'conut-butt'er or co'conut-oil', and co'conut-milk'; co'conut-matt'ing matting made from the husk of the coconut; co'conut-shy a cockshy with coconuts as targets or as prizes. — double coconut the large two-lobed nut of the Seychelles palm, *Lodoicea seychellarum*. [Port. and Sp. *coco*, a bugbear; applied to the nut from the three marks at the end of it, which form a grotesque face.]
 coco². See coco.
 cocoa *kō'kō*, n. the seed of the cacao or chocolate tree: a powder made from the seeds: a drink made from the powder. — co'co-beans the seeds, esp. when dried and fermented; co'co-butt'er, co'co-fat a fat got from the seeds (different from *cocomu*-butter); co'co-mibs cocoa-beans shelled and bruised; cocoa-wood see cocowood below. [cacao.]
 coconscious *kō-kon'shəs*, *adj.* conscious in a subsidiary stream, apart from the main stream. — *n.* cocon-sciousness.
 cocoon *kō-kōon*, n. the silken sheath spun by many insect larvae in passing into the pupa stage and by spiders for their eggs: the capsule in which earthworms and leeches lay their eggs: a preservative covering for

military and other equipment. — *v.t.* to wrap carefully as in a cocoon. — *n.* cocoon'ery a place for keeping silkworms when feeding and spinning cocoons. [Fr. *cocoon*, from *coque*, a shell — L. *concha*, a shell.]
 cocoplum *kō'kō-plum*, n. a West Indian rosaceous tree (*Chrysobalanus icaco*): its edible fruit. [Sp. *icaco*, and *plum*.]
 cocotte *kō-kot'*, n. a light-o'-love: a loose woman: a small fireproof dish, usu. for an individual portion.
 coco-wood, cocoa-wood *kō'kō-wōd*, n. the wood of a West Indian mimosaceous tree, *Inga vera*; kokra-wood.
 coction *kok'shən*, n. boiling: cooking. — *adj.* coc'tile baked: hardened by fire, as a brick. [L. *coquere*, *coctum*, to boil, cook.]
 cocus-wood *kō'kō-wōd*, n. the so-called Jamaica ebony (*Brya ebenus*, Papilionaceae): a tradename for kokra-wood.
 cod¹ *kod*, codfish *kod'fish*, *ns.* a food fish (*Gadus morhua*) of northern seas: any fish of the genus *Gadus* or the family Gadidae. — *n.* cod'ling a small cod. — cod'-fisher; cod'-fish'ery; cod'-fishing. — cod'-liver oil a medicinal oil extracted from the fresh liver of the common cod or related fish. [Ety. dub.]
 cod² *kod*, (obs.) n. a bag: a pod: the scrotum. — *adj.* cod'ded enclosed in a cod; cod'd'ing (*Shak.*) lecherous. — cod'-piece a baggy appendage once worn in front of tight hose. [O.E. *codd*, a small bag; cf. next word.]
 cod³ *kod*, (Scot.) n. a pillow or cushion. [O.N. *koddi*, a pillow; cf. foregoing word.]
 cod⁴ *kod*, (slang) n. a fellow: a cadger: a Charterhouse pensioner: a jest: a hoax. — *adj.* mock: done, intended, etc. as a joke or take-off. — *v.t.* to hoax: to poke fun at: — *pr.p.* cod'd'ing; *pa.t.* and *pa.p.* cod'd'ed. [Ety. dub.]
 coda *kō'də*, n. a passage forming the completion of a piece, rounding it off to a satisfactory conclusion (*mus.*): any similar passage or piece in a story, dance sequence, etc. [It. — L. *cauda*, a tail.]
 coddle *kod'l*, *v.t.* to pamper, mollycoddle; to fondle: to parboil. — *n.* an effeminate person. [Ety. dub.]
 code *kōd*, n. a collection or digest of laws: a system of rules and regulations (*specif.* regarding education): established principles or standards (of art, moral conduct, etc.): a volume: a system of signals: a system of words, letters, or symbols which represent sentences or other words, to ensure economy or secrecy in transmission: a cipher: a set of rules and characters for converting one form of data to another (*comput.*): the characters of the resulting representation of data (*comput.*). — *v.t.* to codify: to express in code. — *ns.* codification (*kōd', kōd'*); codifier (*kōd', kōd'*), cod'ist one who codifies. — *v.t.* codify (*kōd', kōd'*) to put into the form of a code: to digest: to systematize. — *pr.p.* cod'ifying; *pa.t.* and *pa.p.* cod'ified. — *n.* and *adj.* cod'ing. — cod'-book a book containing the words, symbols, etc., of a code or codes; code-breaker a person who tries to interpret secret codes; code-breaking; code'-name, -number a name or number used for convenience, economy, secrecy, etc. — *adj.* code'-named. — code of conduct, practice an established method or set of rules for dealing with, behaving in, etc., a particular situation. [Fr. *code*; see codex.]
 codeine *kō'dēn*, *-dīn*, n. an alkaloid, obtained from opium, used as an analgesic and sedative. [Gr. *kōdesia*, poppy-head.]
 codex *kō'deks*, n. a code: a manuscript volume. — *pl.* codices (*kōd'is-sē*). — *n.* codicil'ogy the study of manuscript volumes. — *adj.* codicil'og'ical. [L. *codex* or *caudex*, -icis, the trunk of a tree, a set of tablets, a book.]
 codger *kof'ər*, n. a mean fellow: an old person: a chap. [Prob. a variant of cadger.]
 codicil *kod'is'il*, n. a supplement to a will. — *adj.* codicill'-ary. [L. *codicillus*, dim. of *codex*.]
 codicology. See codex.
 codification, etc. See code.

codilla *kō-dil's*, n. the coarsest part of [Dim. of It. *coda* — L. *cauda*, a tail.]
 codille *kō-dil'*, n. a situation in ombre whist. [Fr.]
 codling¹ *kod'ling*, codlin *kod'lin*, *ns.* an — cod'lin-moth the moth whose larva eaten apples to fall prematurely. [codling². See cod¹.]
 codon *kō'dən*, n. a triplet of bases in the molecule, which determines a part in protein synthesis. [code; -on.]
 co-driver *kō-dī'vər*, n. one of two alternates in a race or rally.
 cod's(-)wallop, codswallop *kod's'wəl-əp*, *ns.* rubbish. [Origin unknown.]
 coeducation *kō-ed-ū-kē'shən*, n. education together. — *n.* co'ed a girl or woman coeducational institution (usu. U.S.); school. — *adj.* co'ed; coeducational.
 coefficient *kō-īf-ī-sh'nt*, n. that which is another thing: a numerical or literal factor of a quantity in an algebraic numerical constant used as a multiple quantity, in calculating the magnitude property (*phys.*).
 cohorn, cohorn *kō'hörn*, n. a small mortar. [Baron van Coehoorn (1673-1729) a Dutch general.]
 coelacanth *se-lē-kən'th*, n. any of a group of fishes of very great antiquity. [J. hollow; *akaniha*, spine.]
 coelaglyphic *se-lē-ə-glyf'ik*, *adj.* in cave, hollow, ana, up, glyphein, to c
 Coelenterata *se-lēn-tēr-ā'tē-sē*, *n.pl.* a phylum of animals, radially symmetrical, body-cavity, the enteron — Hydrozoa, Anthozoa, Ctenophora. — *adj.* and [Gr. *koilos*, hollow, *enteron*, intestine
 coeliac, coeliac *se-lē-ak*, *adj.* relating to the coeliacs, coeliac disease, etc. — *n.* a from coeliac disease. — coeliac disease intestines in which a sensitivity to giu proper absorption of nutrients throu etc. lining. [Gr. *koiliakos* — *koiliā*.]
 coelom(e), celom *se-lōm*, *-lōm*, n. the body between the intestines and the body above the Coelenterates. — *n.pl.* Coe possessing a coelom. — *adj.* coe'li coelom. — *n.* a coelomate animal. — coelom'ic. [Gr. *koilōma*, -atos, a ca
 coelostat *se-lō-stat*, n. a clock-driven mirror parallel to the earth's, so as to reflect same region of the sky. [L. *caelum* (sky), *Gr. statos*, fixed.]
 coemption *kō-ēmp'shən*, n. the buying up a commodity: a mode of marriage under a mutual sale (Roman law). [L. *co emere*, to buy.]
 coenesthesia, coenesthesia *se-nē-s-thē-sis*, *esthesia*, coenesthesia *-thē-sis*, *-zēs*, bodily consciousness. [Gr. *koinos* *thēsis*, perception.]
 coenenchyma *se-nēng'kē-mē*, (bot.) n. gelatinizing the polyps of an anthozoan *koinos*, common, *enchyma*, infusion.]
 coenobite, coenobite *sen'ō-bīr*, n. a monk community. — *adj.* coenobitic (-bit coen'obitism; coenob'ium a religious colony of unicellular organisms (*biol.*). [Gr. *koinōbion* — *koinos*, common, *bion*.]
 coenosarc *sen'ō-sārk*, n. the common tissue of a coral or the like. [Gr. *k sarx*, flesh.]
 coenzyme *kō-en-zīm*, n. the non-protein system, which is unaffected by heat.
 coequal *kō-ē'kwəl*, *adj.* equal with another rank or dignity. — *n.* one of the 32 coequality (-i-kwəl'). — *adv.* coe'quall